

October 20, 2020

Elk Island Catholic Schools Board of Trustees Recognize School Bus Safety Week

Sherwood Park, AB—The Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) Board of Trustees salutes the amazing work that our divisional bus drivers do every day in transporting approximately 4,074 students across the EICS division. This is of particular importance this week as it is the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council's (ASTAC) annual School Bus Safety Week, which runs from October 18-24, 2020.

"At EICS, we truly believe that the school bus is another part of our school community and therefore we want the bus to be a safe and caring environment, just like our classrooms," explained EICS Board of Trustees Chair Ted Paszek. "As a community, we all have a role to play with School Bus Safety such as obeying traffic laws and being extra cautious around school buses at all times while on the road."

EICS has a very extensive school bus transportation department and every day bus operators safely steer thousands of students to and from school. No matter what the weather and in the middle of a health crisis, our operators safely watch over 60 plus students on a bus and adhering to provincial and federal regulations.

Some highlights of the EICS Transportation system are:

- Total students transported on EICS buses: 4,074
- Service area: 699.8 square miles
- Daily distance of combined routes: 4,943 km
- Yearly distance of combined routes: 939. 170 km
- EICS owned and operated buses: 38 buses with EICS staff
- Co-operative busing service with both Elk Island Public Schools and Battle River School Division

This year, our divisional schools will be participating in the annual ASTAC provincial poster contest with the theme of: *My Driver, My Hero*. For more information on the contest, please visit the ASTAC website located at: astac.ca

To arrange an interview on the this release, please do not hesitate to reach out to Susan Johnson, EICS Communications at susan.johnson@eics.ab.ca or via phone at 780 449-7487.

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